

hearts are preparing for the wailing. Others, attuned by the Holy Spirit, are rehearsing the oratories of heaven. Into those celestial choirs shall be admitted only those who by penitence and faith have learned the new "song of Moses and the Lamb." They will be the harpers harping with their hearts. Why should we not all be rehearsing by Christly living for those melodies?

"Hearts once filled with thoughts of Heaven,  
Hearts to generous actions dear,  
Hearts redeemed, and sins forgiven,  
Hearts where love has cast our fear;  
Hearts that would be ever raising  
Loving thoughts for love untold,  
Hearts on Jesus ever gazing,  
Such harps as these are harps of gold.

### THE PHONOGRAPH.

Dr. Chapman in Melbourne said: One of the members of our family was sent over to China as a missionary. She went over just a young girl, and naturally we were very much concerned for her. It was just before the time of the Boxer movement when she arrived in China, and because her life was in danger she was sent over to Japan, where she is today a missionary. Just before she left Philadelphia, the members of the Mission Board sent word to us that if we wanted to send a present to her, they would send it on ahead, so that when she arrived in China the present would be there. What would you choose as a present for a missionary to meet on her arriving on the foreign fields? I made one suggestion, and all the members of the household laughed at it. Finally the smallest boy in the household suggested that we should send her a phonograph. We thought it a capital suggestion. Then he suggested to us that we should talk into the phonograph. One day when the missionary was away from home we purchased a phonograph and started it going. Her father breathed his blessing into it, and said, "My child, when you come back from the mission field I shall be in heaven"—and he was. We all sang into the phonograph, then we each spoke into it and finally the baby laughed into it. We sent it away to China, and I can never tell you how we waited for the first letter to come from the mission field. At last it arrived. We opened it quickly and summoned the members of the household into the same room where the records had been made, to read it. This was the letter: "Dear ones at Home,—I opened the present this evening. I was sitting in the room made sacred by the memory of my grandmother (who was also a missionary), and I started the phonograph going. I heard my father's benediction, I heard your singing, I heard the baby's laugh, and the sea was gone, and I was back again with you all in the city of Philadelphia." With all reverence, I say the Bible is God's Phonograph. He talks into it, and if you will listen he will talk back to you through it. Listen, men and women. Whatever your sin may be, or your failure, let God's Word grip you, and it will fashion you over again. God grant it!

## Minister's Place

### VOICE TRAINING NEEDED BY PREACHERS.

There is a department in the Outlook called Public Opinion. One of its contributors writes as follows:

"I am sure that many a fine sermon has missed its purpose by being delivered in an ordinary conversational tone which is by no means sufficiently loud to be heard in a church auditorium, and often the voice drops to a whisper, which perhaps the preacher thinks makes a thought more effective. Why should not theological students who expect to go out and preach, go through with a very thorough course in voice training and gestures? It would seem that with a three years' course a great many of them ought to do a great deal better in that way. It takes a pretty good faithful Christian, one willing at all times to do his duty, who will attend church Sunday after Sunday knowing that he will lose about half of the sermon simply because the minister does not raise his voice loud enough to be heard farther than the front seats. A friend of ours living in a near-by city attended a Thanksgiving service, and said she went home nervously tired out trying to hear. She sat a little back of the middle of the church. She afterwards heard that it was a beautiful sermon. What about actors on the stage? They have to make themselves heard. If they did not, how long would they hold an audience?"

### AN ABIDING PASTOR.

Iteneracy in the ministry is largely practiced among denominations who do not own it theoretically as their policy. It has its advantages, no doubt, but its obvious disadvantages as well. No minister, in a three or four years' term can take root in a community as one can do who lives and works there for a generation. The man who comes and goes may leave his message—and if it is God's message it will not be in vain—he may leave behind him also a memory that will be fragrant and quickening; but the man in the protracted pastorate can weave the fibres of his influence into the social organism of which he forms a part and help to lift it to the feet of God. There is not in the world a greater opportunity for good than that of the man who fulfils a manly, Christlike ministry not only in the pulpit, but as a citizen.

The Christian minister whom Christ has counted worthy of this office need not despair of pulpit power because he is by natural temperament passive and phlegmatic, lacking in enthusiasm. The fire needed for pulpit power is not an ardent temperament; nor is the inward flame of the soul's own kindling; but it is the endowment of the Holy Spirit, which will make all within the preacher's heart glow with the passion of Christ for the souls of men. The filament within the electric lamp is of itself cold and gray; but when it is in circuit with the dynamo, it shines with dazzling light.—Rev. Dr. Hanna, in the Baptist Commonwealth.